

Abstract

Public space in the city. Social aspect and design for functional urban planning on the example of Prague

The theme of this thesis is the formulation and revision of the general criteria of the functionality of urban public space in particular voluntary activities with the emphasis on user experience. The work as a whole combines theoretical and empirical approach to examining this issue, as these two views are complementary and mutually enriching.

In the theoretical part, the theme of public space is imbedded in a broader sociological context. From the theoretical approach it is gradually moved to empiricism, which includes mainly the coverage of the concept of observable and measurable functionality indicators.

In the empirical part, the formulated criteria are applied in practice within the observation of selected areas of Prague and also within their qualitative evaluation by the space visitors themselves. The universality and portability of these aspects in a different environment has been reviewed by comparing the theoretical aspects of functionality with the empirical evaluation of the observers.

The work in its final section gives suggestions for the functional urban planning, based on newly uncovered contexts and dimensions.

Key word: city, urban public space, functional urban planning